



Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network (IISN)  
 Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Other Respiratory Viruses  
**Supplemental Activity Report**  
 (September 27, 2020 - May 22, 2021)



All data presented in this report are provisional and may change as additional reports are received

**IDPH has discontinued weekly influenza reports for the 2020-21 flu season.**

**IDPH will publish monthly reports for June through September starting with the June report on July 9, 2021.**

Quick Stats for 9/27/2020 - 5/22/2021				
<b>Predominant Flu at SHL</b>  A(H1N1)pdm09	<b>Lab Survey Flu Positive %</b>  Antigen 3.2% PCR 0.0%	<b>Hospitalization Rate per 10,000</b>  1.25	<b>Outpatient ILI %</b>  1.07%	<b>Cumulative Flu Deaths All Ages</b>  5
<b>Predominant Nonflu Virus</b>  Rhinovirus / Enterovirus PCR	<b>Schools Reporting 10% Illness</b>  65	<b>Weekly School Illness Max %</b>  1.8%	<b>Long Term Care Outbreaks</b>  0	<b>Flu Vaccines Given</b>  1,274,779

**Flu Death Note:** Deaths are considered influenza-associated when influenza is listed on the death certificate.

**Iowa Statewide Activity Summary (September 27, 2020 - May 22, 2021)**

**Overview:** Flu activity in the 2020-21 season has been historically low.

**Flu Testing at SHL:** The State Hygienic Laboratory has identified two influenza A(H1N1pdm09), one influenza A variant, and no influenza B viruses from submitted samples so far this season. Testing at SHL should not be used to gauge overall flu activity for any season due to the bias towards positive specimens.

The variant identified was an influenza A(H1N1) variant identified in an Iowa resident with regular swine contact. The person was not hospitalized, no other human cases were discovered and the person has fully recovered.

**Lab Survey Flu Tests:** 90 influenza A positive (1.3%) and 128 influenza B positive (1.9%) antigen tests have been reported on the Iowa respiratory virus survey so far this season. Four influenza A and seven influenza B molecular tests were positive for influenza.

**Hospitalizations:** Twenty influenza-related hospitalizations were reported from sentinel sites this season.

**ILI:** The cumulative proportion of outpatient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) so far is 1.07%. Only the first six weeks of the season were above the regional baseline of 1.7%. After that week, IDPH worked with the sites to exclude COVID-19 only cases from ILI numbers.

**School Illness:** 65 schools reported 10% illness this season.

**Outbreaks:** No long-term care influenza outbreaks were reported so far this season.

**Flu deaths:** Five influenza-associated deaths were reported this season.

**Non-flu testing:** Rhinovirus/enterovirus was the most frequently reported non-influenza and non-COVID-19 respiratory testing target reported on the Iowa respiratory virus testing survey with 15.3% specimens testing positive.

**Flu vaccination:** There were 1, 274,779 influenza vaccines reported for this season according to IRIS, Iowa's influenza immunization registration system.

## Influenza Testing at the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa (SHL)

Cumulative Influenza Viruses Detected at SHL by Age Group (9/27/20 - 5-22/21)

Age Group	Influenza A			Total
	A(H1N1)pdm09	A(H3)	A Variant	
0-4	0	0	0	0
5-17	0	0	0	0
18-24	1	0	0	1
25-49	0	0	0	0
50-64	0	0	0	0
65 and over	1	0	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

Age Group	Influenza B		Total
	B Victoria	B Yamagata	
65 and over	0	0	0
50-64	0	0	0
5-17	0	0	0
25-49	0	0	0
18-24	0	0	0
0-4	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

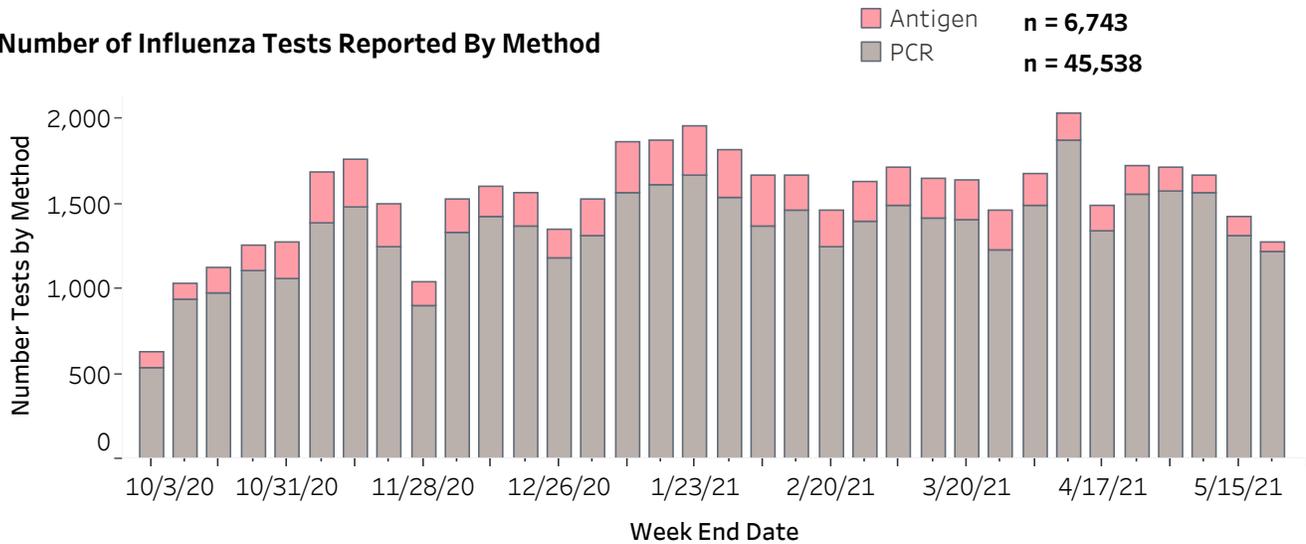
Testing at SHL should not be used to gauge overall flu activity for any season due to the bias towards positive specimens and reduced flu testing capacity this season due to COVID-19 testing demand.

SHL identified an influenza A(H1N1) variant this season in a specimen from an Iowa resident with regular swine contact. The person was not hospitalized, no other human cases were discovered and the person has fully recovered.

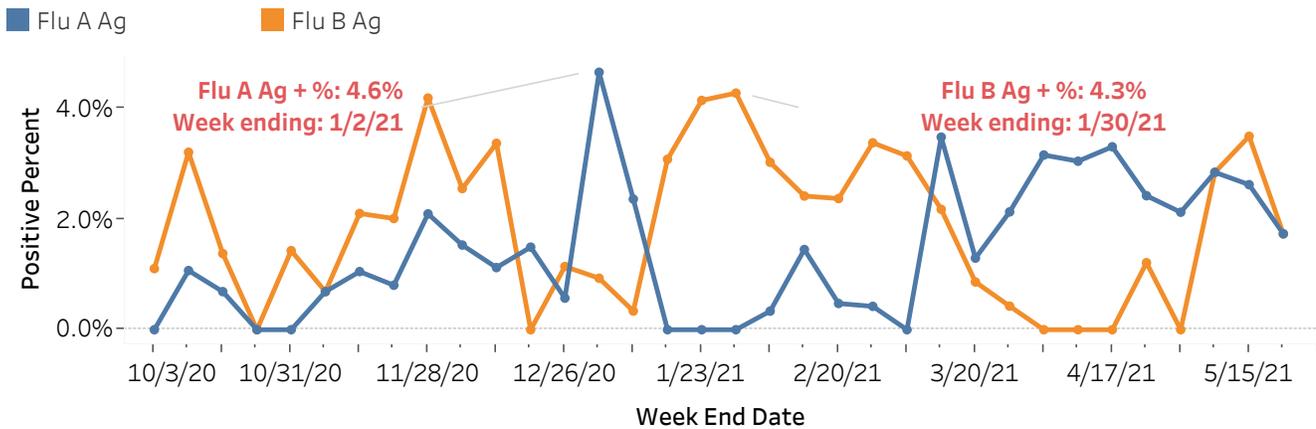
**SHL Flu Testing Note:** The State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) is the primary laboratory in Iowa characterizing specimens for influenza surveillance. SHL reports the number of tests performed and the type and subtype/lineage of positive tests to the influenza surveillance network daily. SHL also sends a portion of specimens to CDC for further characterization.

# Influenza Antigen and Molecular Results from Respiratory Virus Survey

## Number of Influenza Tests Reported By Method



## Percent Positivity of Influenza Tests



Molecular tests are not shown due to the small number of positives.

## Flu Positive Tests by Region 9/27/2020 - 5/22/21

Flu Region	Antigen				PCR			
	Flu A Ag		Flu B Ag		Flu PCR A unknown		Flu PCR B	
	Number +	Positive %	Number +	Positive %	Number +	Positive %	Number +	Positive %
1-C	7	0.9%	25	3.1%	1	0.0%	5	0.0%
2-NE	3	0.6%	34	7.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
3-NW	74	1.6%	66	1.4%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
4-SW	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
5-SE	2	0.9%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
6-E	4	0.9%	2	0.5%	1	0.0%	2	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

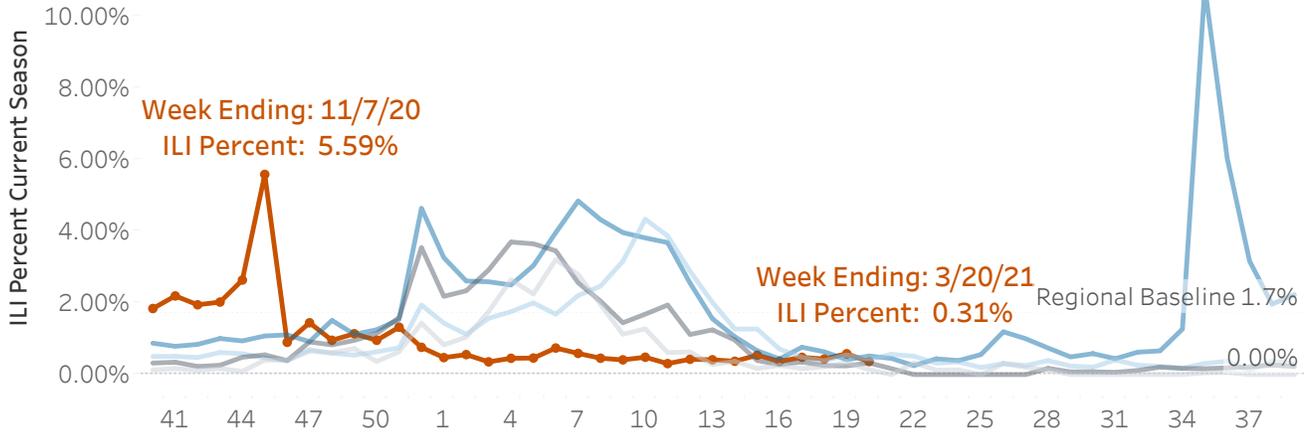
**Respiratory Survey Note:** IDPH and SHL run a weekly web-based survey program where laboratorians report the number of influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) rapid tests performed and the number of tests positive. Facilities reported the total number of tests and positive results not individual-level information.

## Outpatient Health Care Provider Surveillance Program (ILINet)

### Percent Of Outpatient Visits Attributed to Influenza-like Illness (ILI) as Reported by ILINet Sites

2016-17    2017-18    2018-19    2019-20    2020-21

#### ILI by Season



#### ILI Recent Weeks

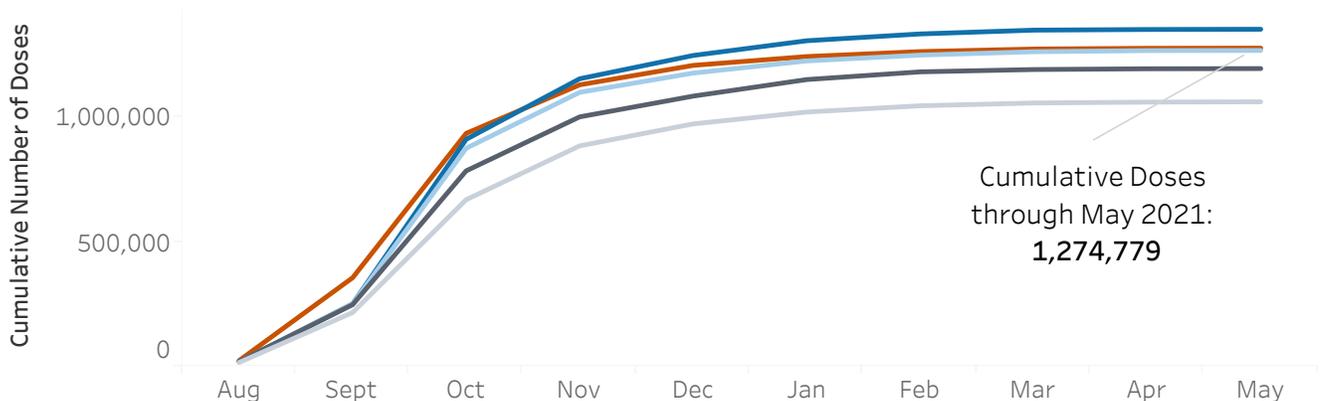
MMWR Week	End Date	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-49	Age 50-64	Age 65 and older	Total ILI	ILI Percent
18	5/8/21	5	6	4	1	0	16	0.43%
19	5/15/21	2	9	6	1	4	22	0.58%
20	5/22/21	4	6	2	1	0	13	0.36%

**Outpatient ILI Note:** Outpatient health care providers who participate in the ILINet (a national influenza surveillance program) report the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness and the total number of patient visits each week. This system is a key part of Iowa's influenza surveillance. Iowa health care providers interested in joining this surveillance program should contact Andy Weigel at 515-322-1937 or [andy.weigel@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:andy.weigel@idph.iowa.gov) for more information.

Week 46 note: IDPH worked with sites reporting high ILI last week to exclude reported influenza-like illness due to COVID which greatly reduced the ILI% from week 45.

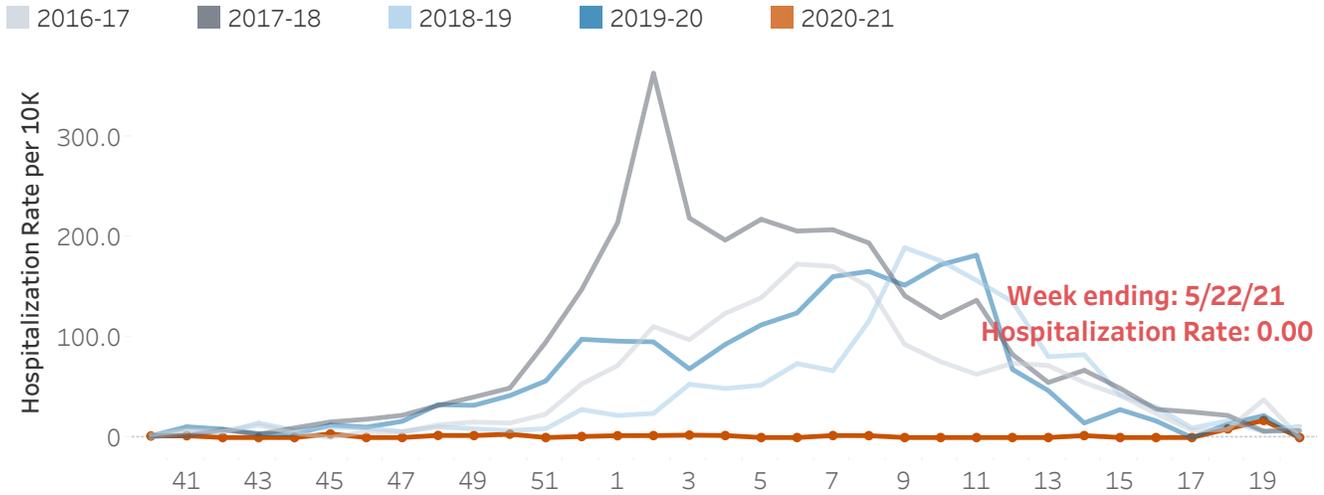
#### Administered Doses of Season Influenza Vaccine Reported to IRIS, Year to Date by Season

2016-2017    2017-2018    2018-2019    2019-2020    2020-2021

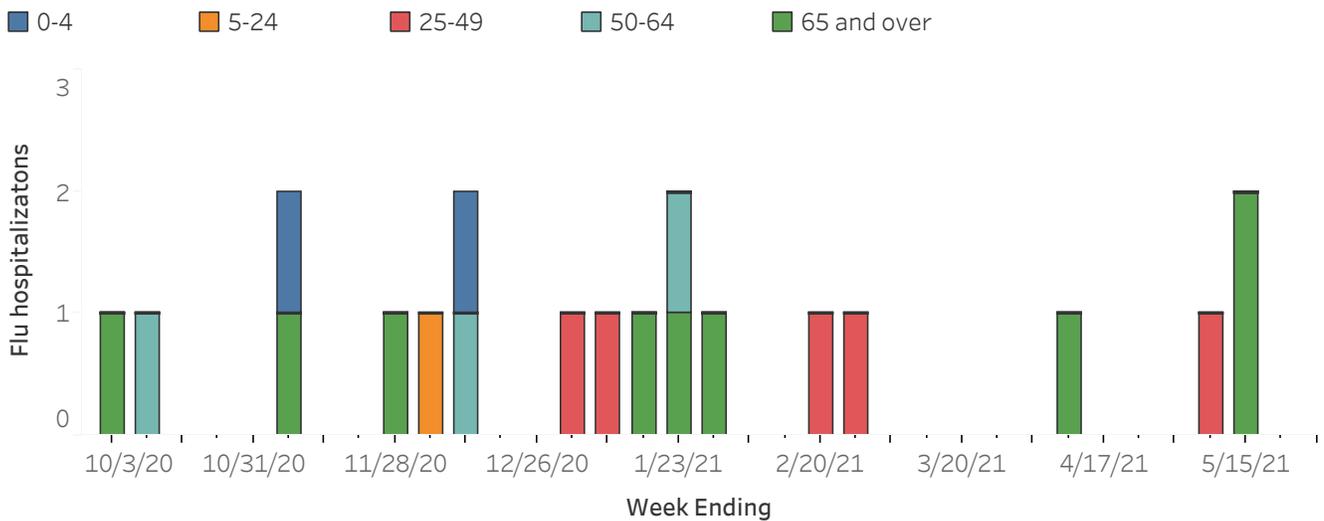


# Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

## Influenza-associated Hospitalization Rate Reported by Hospital Surveillance Sites - by Season



## Number of Influenza-associated Hospitalizations by Age Group and Week



## Number of Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations

by Age Group  
9/27/20 - 5/22/21

Age Group	Number of Hospitalizations
0-4	2
5-24	1
25-49	5
50-64	3
65 and over	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>

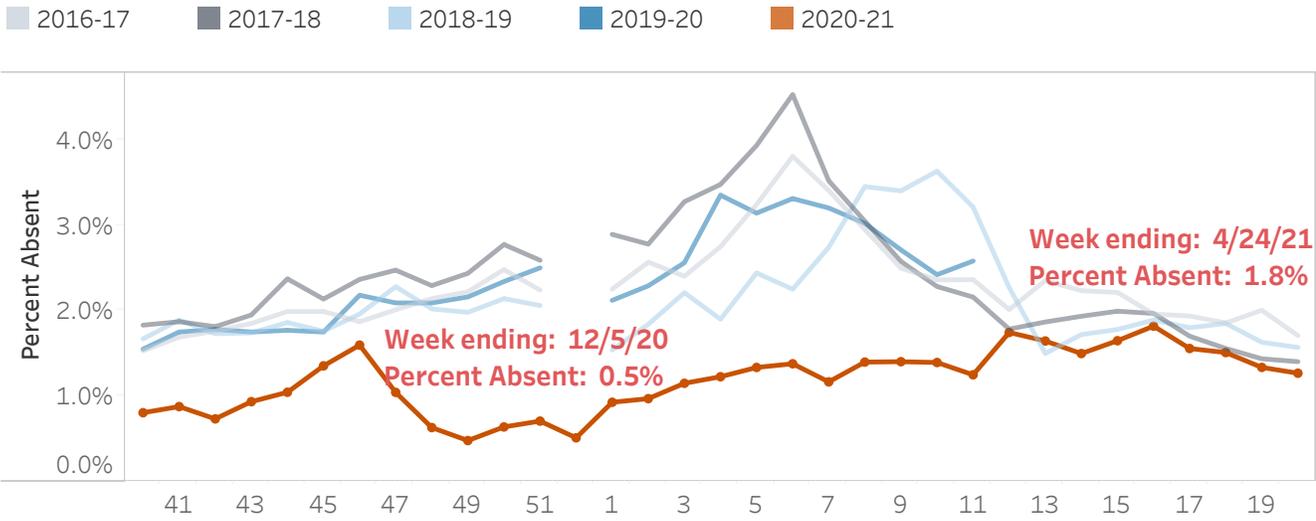
Hospitalization Rate per 10,000  
9/27/20 - 5/22/21

1.25

**Hospital Surveillance Note:** Sentinel hospitals that participate in IISN voluntarily track and report the number of influenza-associated hospitalizations and the total number of inpatients each week. Iowa hospitals interested in joining this surveillance program should contact Andy Weigel at 515-322-1937 or [andy.weigel@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:andy.weigel@idph.iowa.gov) for more information.

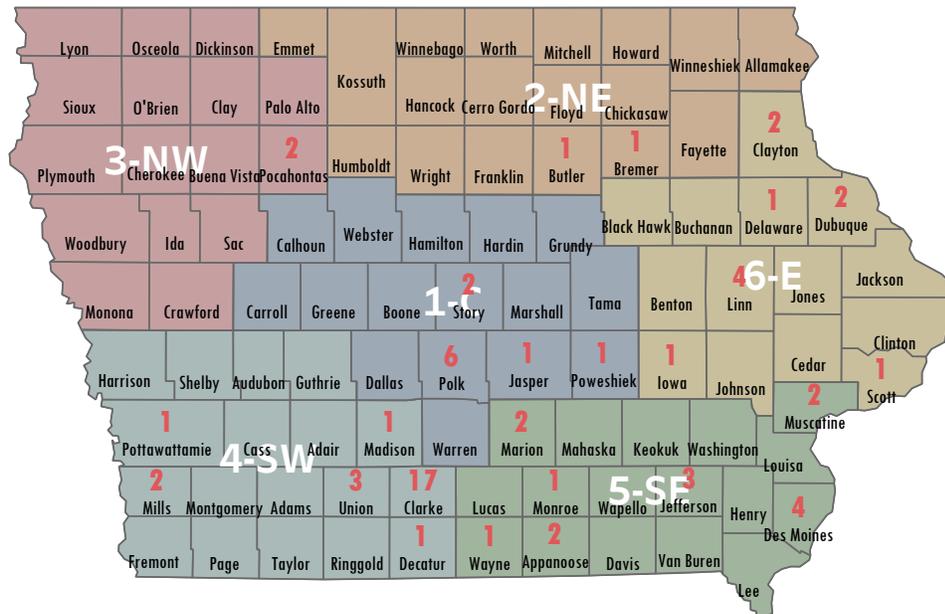
# School Surveillance Program

## Percent of Enrolled Students Absent Due to Illness Reported by Sentinel Schools



**NOTE: School data for week 52-53 are limited due to holiday closings**

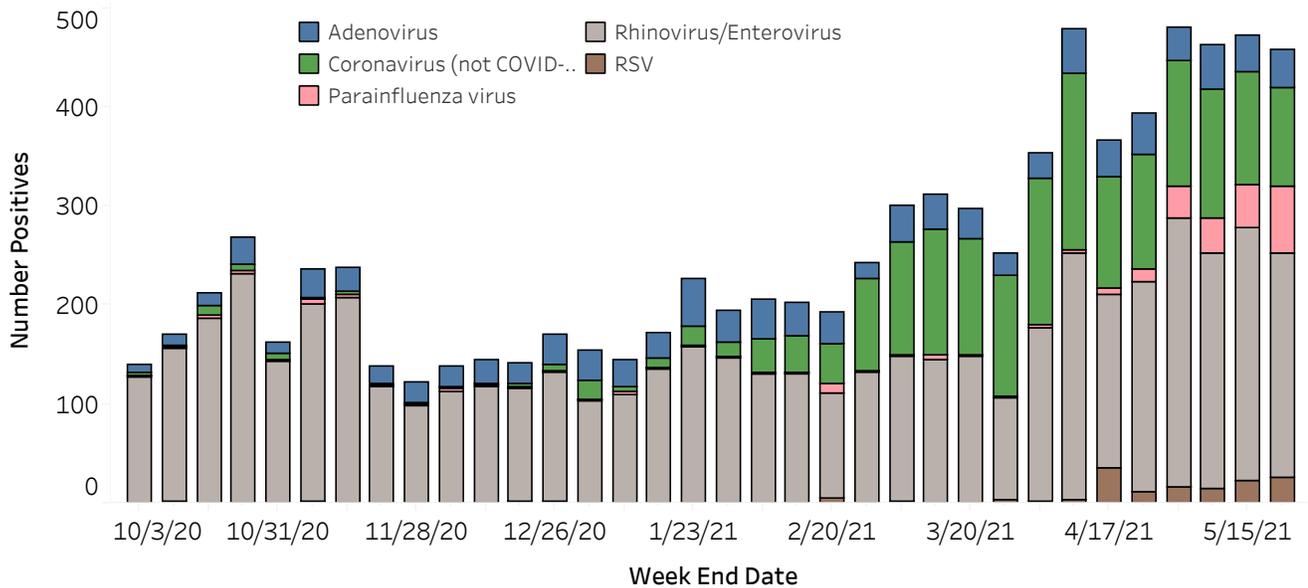
## Number of Schools Reporting > 10% Absenteeism Due to Any Illness 9/27/2020 - 5/22/21



**School Illness Note:** IDPH monitors illnesses in schools from two different types of reporting: 10 percent school absence reports and weekly sentinel illness reporting. Iowa schools (K-12) track and report when the number of students absent with any illness reaches or exceeds 10 percent of total student enrollment. Iowa sentinel schools that participate in IISN voluntarily track and report absence due to all illness and the total enrollment each week.

## Non-influenza Respiratory Viruses

### Number of Positive Non-influenza Respiratory Viruses by Pathogen and Week



### Number of Non-influenza Positive Results 9/27/2020 - 5/22/21

Pathogen / Group	Cumulative Positives	Positive %
Adenovirus PCR	971	2.7%
Coronavirus PCR 229E	51	0.1%
Coronavirus PCR HKU1	21	0.1%
Coronavirus PCR NL63	1,133	3.2%
Coronavirus PCR not typed	161	0.5%
Coronavirus PCR OC43	457	1.3%
HMPV PCR	7	0.0%
PIV1 PCR	5	0.0%
PIV2 PCR	17	0.0%
PIV3 PCR	196	0.6%
PIV4 PCR	37	0.1%
Rhinovirus / Enterovirus PCR	5,446	15.3%
RSV PCR	132	0.2%

**Respiratory Survey note:** IDPH and SHL run a weekly web-based survey program where laboratorians report the number of non-influenza respiratory virus tests performed and the number of positive results. Facilities reported the total number of tests and positive results not individual-level information. Only pathogens with at least one positive result are shown.

#### Other Resources:

United States influenza surveillance: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/).

International: [https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/latest\\_update\\_GIP\\_surveillance/en/](https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/)

Influenza vaccine recommendation: <https://idph.iowa.gov/immmtb/immunization/influenza/recommendations>

CDC vaccine information: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/keyfacts.htm>

Vaccine finder: <https://vaccinefinder.org/>

Illinois: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/influenza-surveillance>

Minnesota: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/flu/stats/index.html>

Missouri: <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/influenza/reports.php>

Nebraska: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Flu-Activity.aspx>

South Dakota: <https://doh.sd.gov/diseases/infectious/flu/>

Wisconsin: <https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/influenza/index.htm>